

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

NICHOLAS HEITMAN,

Defendant.

4:23CR3058

PRELIMINARY ORDER OF
FORFEITURE

This matter is before the Court upon the United States of America's Amended Motion for Preliminary Order of Forfeiture ([Filing No. 90](#).) The Court has reviewed the record in this case and, being duly advised in the premises, finds as follows:

1. On August 21, 2024, a Magistrate Judge held a change of plea hearing for Defendant and Defendant entered a plea of guilty to Count I and admitted to the Forfeiture Allegation of the Indictment (Filing No. 80; [Filing No. 83](#); [Filing No. 88](#).) The Magistrate Judge issued a Findings and Recommendation on Plea of Guilty indicating the undersigned should accept Defendant's plea of guilty and find Defendant guilty of the crime(s) to which Defendant tendered a guilty plea. ([Filing No. 84](#).)

2. On October 11, 2024, the undersigned adopted the Magistrate Judge's Findings and Recommendation on Plea of Guilty, accepted Defendant's plea, and found Defendant guilty. ([Filing No. 89](#).)

3. Count I of the Indictment charged the Defendant with violation of 21 U.S.C. § 841(a)(1) and (b)(1).

4. The Forfeiture Allegation of the Indictment sought forfeiture of a United States currency (\$4,580.00) seized from Nicholas Heitman on or about December 6, 2022 as "property

constituting, or derived from, any proceeds obtained, directly or indirectly, as the result of such offense and any property used, or intended to be used, in any manner or part, to commit, or to facilitate the commission of, the offense.”

5. By virtue of said plea of guilty, the Defendant has forfeited his interest in the subject property. Accordingly, the United States should be entitled to possession of said property pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 853.

6. The Government’s Motion for Preliminary Order of Forfeiture should be granted.

IT IS ORDERED:

1. The Government’s Amended Motion for Preliminary Order of Forfeiture ([Filing No. 90](#)) is granted.

2. The Government’s Motion for Preliminary Forfeiture, ([Filing No. 87](#)) is denied as moot.

3. Based upon the Forfeiture Allegation of the Indictment and the plea of guilty, the Government is hereby authorized to seize the \$4,580.00 United States currency.

4. Defendant’s interest in the \$4,580.00 United States currency is hereby forfeited to the Government for disposition in accordance with the law, subject to the provisions of 21 U.S.C. § 853(n)(1).

5. The \$4,580.00 United States currency is to be held by the Government in its secure custody and control.

6. Pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 853(n)(1), the Government shall publish for at least thirty consecutive days on an official internet government forfeiture site, www.forfeiture.gov, notice of

this Preliminary Order of Forfeiture, notice of publication evidencing the Government's intent to dispose of the subject property in such manner as the Attorney General may direct, and notice that any person, other than the Defendant, having or claiming a legal interest in any of the subject property must file a Petition with the Court within thirty days of the final publication of notice or of receipt of actual notice, whichever is earlier.


7. The published notice shall state the Petition referred to in Paragraph 5, above, shall be for a hearing to adjudicate the validity of the Petitioner's interest in the \$4,580.00 United States currency, shall be signed by the Petitioner under penalty of perjury, and shall set forth the nature and extent of the Petitioner's right, title, or interest in the \$4,580.00 United States currency and any additional facts supporting the Petitioner's claim and the relief sought.

8. The Government may also, to the extent practicable, provide direct written notice to any person known to have an interest in the \$4,580.00 United States currency as a substitute for published notice as to those persons so notified.

9. Upon adjudication of all third-party interests, this Court will enter a Final Order of Forfeiture pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 853(n), in which all interests will be addressed.

Dated this 16th day of October, 2024.

BY THE COURT:



SUSAN M. BAZIS
United States District Judge